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# Economic and Community Development Committee Minutes August 24th 2010 DuPage County Conference Room

**Members Present:** Ivan Baker, Tracey Bosman, Bill Browne, Lori Clark, John Greuling, Rand Haas, Dennis Marino, Leslie Page-Piper (for John Schneider), Charles Perkins

**Members Absent:** Consuella Brown, Grant Davis, JoAnn Eckmann, Thomas Gary, Robert Gleeson, Joanna Greene, Judith Kossy, Harry Pestine, Angie Powell, Gary Skoog, Ed Sitar

**Staff Present:** Erin Aleman, Ryan Ames, Brett Baden, Annie Byrne, Bola Delano, Jon Hallas, Brian Rademacher

Others Present: Kristen Andersen

#### 1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

## 2.0 Welcome and Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves.

# 3.0 Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Lori Clark and seconded by Bill Browne.

### 4.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

#### 5.0 Staff Report

CMAP and the Illinois Tollway are hosting a luncheon on Wednesday, September 22 from noon to 2:00 p.m. Executive Director Kristi Lafleur will discuss the current state and future of the Tollway in the context of *GO TO 2040*. Members are invited to participate and to notify interested associates. An information flyer will be sent to the committee later in the week.

### 6.0 Chairman Report

The chairman commended CMAP on the draft plan and the public outreach. He further thanked the committee for the input and hard work to include economic development components of the plan. The chair suggested members consider for future discussion activities of the committee when the plan has been passed.

### 7.0 Summary of Innovation Focus Groups

Tracey Bosman summarized the innovation focus group that met on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. There were six businesses representing clean energy companies. Discussions focused on: 1) The potential for government agencies to help push the green agenda, help with demonstration projects and set state, regional and local goals to adopt green practices. 2) There is an opportunity to build demand for green products and clean-tech energy into planning code and permitting process. 4) The Midwest, especially Illinois, needs to build the supply chain for wind, solar, and geothermal. Brian Rademacher summarized the innovation group that met on June 24<sup>th</sup>. There were five businesses representing manufacturing. Discussion focused on: 1) Lack of availably trained students that want to work in manufacturing. Businesses stressed the need to work closely with colleges and workforce to help fill the gaps. 2) Offer 'innovation days' in manufacturing firms around the region to educate adults and students on the innovation and opportunities to work in the manufacturing cluster. 3) There was a consensus that regional business consortiums by industry are useful to leverage best practices and share ideas.

The committee appreciated the work that went in to coordinating these events. It serves as a good template for future discussions with the private sector.

## 8.0 GOTO 2040 Update

**8.1** Erin Aleman provided a summary of CMAP's public engagement activities over the summer. CMAP received over a thousand public comments from over two hundred meetings throughout the region. Overall, comments were supportive of the plan. Staff anticipates that there will be no major policy changes to the *GO TO 2040* plan, however there will be a number of minor changes based on the public comments as well as clarifications of the plan's recommendations. All public comments and a revised version of the draft plan can be viewed on the CMAP website: http://www.goto2040.org/. In September the comments and revised version of the plan will be discussed by the board, MPO policy committee, and transportation committee. The Planning Committee will consider recommending the plan for adoption on September 29th and the Board and Policy Committee will vote on October 13th.

**8.2** Staff presented a summary on comments and changes that will be made to the workforce and innovation chapters of the plan. Comments on the workforce chapter: 1) there was a heavy emphasis on community colleges and there needs to be inclusion of other intermediary schools and training programs. 2) There needs to be greater emphasis on the role of economic development organizations and the opportunities to strengthen partnerships between them and workforce boards, colleges, and other intermediary programs. These comments will be reflected in the plan. On innovation, the comments provided by the committee and the innovation focus groups will be incorporated in the updates to the chapter. The chapter has been changed to reflect the urgency of innovation in our region and to highlight the innovative successes as well. More concrete examples of innovation and technology will also be mentioned. Staff is

currently working on a methodology for their cluster drill-down analysis to focus on freight and green energy. More information will be presented when it becomes available.

**8.3.** Diana Torres encouraged members to become part of the GO TO 2040 Partnership program. More information and sign-up opportunities can be found at the website: <a href="http://www.goto2040.org/partnership.aspx">http://www.goto2040.org/partnership.aspx</a>.

#### 9.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

## 10.0 Upcoming Regional Events

The Will County Center for Economic Development is hosting its annual Logistics Summit on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

# 11.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

The next meeting of the Economic and Community Development working committee will be held on **Tuesday**, **September 28**, **2010 at 9:00am** in the CMAP offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Rademacher Staff Liaison

09-13-10